

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Jack Friedman (reg. no. 44,688) on August 27, 2009.

3. Please amend claim 1. The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for operating a server for establishing a chat session between two users in a network system, including a first user desiring to establish a chat session with a second user which does not have a chat application open, comprising:

said first user downloading from said server browser executable code for initiating a chat session;

said first user executing said browser executable code to display at a first browser window a chat invitation form including a header field, an instruction field, one or more fields for entering user identifiers, and a message field;

said first user entering to said chat invitation form one or more user identifiers including a user identifier for said second user, and optionally a message to said message field;

receiving at said server from said first user a request to enter chat mode with a second user;

receiving asynchronously at said server from said second user an HTTP request to download content from said server or any other intranet or Intranet

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server, said second user not currently executing a chat applet instance and being unaware of said request from said first user to enter chat mode;

said server responding to said HTTP request from said second user with an HTTP response including said content modified with a chat user interface to open a second browser window including a header field, a messages field, and a response field, ~~which~~ wherein content of said second browser window ~~downloads~~ causes a chat applet instance to download for execution at said second user;

executing said chat applet instance at said second user to instantiate a chat session between said first user and said second user; and

establishing a persistent connection between said second browser and said server to establish a channel for message exchange between said first and second browsers with said server acting as proxy.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

authenticating said first user to a message engine at said server to enable unicast messaging capabilities; and thereafter

serving to said first user, in response to an asynchronous message from said first user requesting server content, a user interface to a collaboration tool for conveying text and/or multimedia messages with respect to said first user and an administration server.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior arts of record teach or suggest in combination features of a method for operating a server for establishing a chat session between two users in a network system, including a first user desiring to establish a chat session with a second user which does not have a chat application open, comprising: said first user downloading from said server browser executable code for initiating a chat session; said first user executing said browser executable code to display at a first browser window a chat invitation form including a header field, an instruction field, one or more fields for entering user

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identifiers, and a message field; said first user entering to said chat invitation form one or more user identifiers including a user identifier for said second user, and optionally a message to said message field; receiving at said server from said first user a request to enter chat mode with a second user; receiving asynchronously at said server from said second user an HTTP request to download content from said server or any other intranet or Intranet server, said second user not currently executing a chat applet instance and being unaware of said request from said first user to enter chat mode; said server responding to said HTTP request from said second user with an HTTP response including said content modified with a chat user interface to open a second browser window including a header field, a messages field, and a response field, wherein content of said second browser window causes a chat applet instance to download for execution at said second user; executing said chat applet instance at said second user to instantiate a chat session between said first user and said second user; and establishing a persistent connection between said second browser and said server to establish a channel for message exchange between said first and second browsers with said server acting as proxy the first user identifies a second user to the server so that the first user could enter a chat mode with the second user; the server inserts a chat applet instance in an HTTP response to the second user with respect to an HTTP request for content received by the server from the second user while the second user is unaware of the first user's request to enter a chat mode with the second user, and that this chat applet instance is executed at the second user to instantiate a chat session between the first user and the second user.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TARIQ S. NAJEE-ULLAH whose telephone number is

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(571)270-5013. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30 - 6:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Tariq S Najee-ullah/
Acting Examiner of Art Unit 2453
August 26, 2009

/ARIO ETIENNE/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2457